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NOTES AND FRAGMENTS

Mr. E. W. Winkler writes the editor: "Some of the Daughters of the Confederacy may write you in regard to the poem printed in the last number of the *QUARTERLY*.

"The enclosed copy varies in many details from the copy printed. Perhaps attention should be called to this fact, and the name of the author given in next issue." The copy furnished by Mr. Winkler follows:

THE LOST CAUSE

Representing nothing on God's earth now,
And naught in the waters below it;
As the pledge of a nation that passed away,
Keep it, dear friend, and show it.
Show it to those who will lend an ear
To the tale this trifle will tell,
Of Liberty born of a patriot's dream,
Of a storm-cradled nation that fell.

Too poor to possess the precious ores,
And too much of a stranger to borrow;
We issued today our "promise to pay,"
And hoped to redeem on the morrow.
The days rolled on, and weeks became years,
But our coffers were empty still;
Gold was so scarce, the Treasury quaked
If a dollar should drop in the till.

But the faith that was in us was strong indeed,
Though our poverty well we discerned,
And this little note represented the pay
That our suffering veterans earned.
They knew it had hardly a value in gold,
But as gold our soldiers received it;
It gazed in our eyes with a promise to pay,
And every true soldier believed it.

But our boys thought little of price or pay,
Or of bills that were overdue,
We knew if it bought our bread today,
'Twas the best our poor Country could do.
Keep it, it tells all our history o'er,
From the birth of the dream to its last;
Modest, and born of the Angel Hope
Like our hope of success, *it passed.*

The "Lost Cause" was written on the back of a Confederate note in March, 1865, by Major A. L. Jonas, of Mississippi. It was given to Miss Annie Rush, of New York City, at a levee held in Richmond, Va., in honor of Confederate officers, at the close of the war. Through Miss Rush, the now famous poem, was published in the *Metropolitan Record* of New York under the caption "Something Too Good to Be Lost." Major Jonas was accorded official recognition as the true author by the Daughters of the Confederacy at their convention held in Norfolk, Va., in 1907. At the same time the honor of reading the poem at the convention was conferred on the author's daughter, Miss S. L. Jonas, of Memphis, Tennessee.—*Preface, Confederate and Southern State Currency; Historical and Financial Data, Biographical Sketches, Descriptions, with Illustrations.* By William West Bradbeer.

NEWSPAPER CURIOSITIES.—Newspaper files are useful as historical sources. Unless associated with larger collections of newspapers, single numbers have little value except as curiosities. Perhaps, everyone who has charge of newspaper files has had copies of the following brought to his attention:

Ulster County Gazette, published at Kingston (Ulster County), by Samuel Freer and Son, Saturday, January 4, 1800. This paper gives an account of the death of George Washington; the rules on the inside pages are almost one-fourth inch wide. The Texas State Library has four copies of this paper, all bearing the same date, but they represent three different impressions. None, in all probability, was printed fifty years ago.

The Daily Citizen, Vicksburg, Miss., Thursday, July 2, 1862. The writer has recently had an opportunity to compare three

copies of this paper, bearing above date. Each copy was printed in four columns on the plain side of a figured wall paper. But each differed from the other. For purpose of reference they will be designated as A, B, and C. A and B belong to the Texas State Library; C belongs to a student of the University of Texas. The printed surface of A is nine and nine-sixteenths inches by seventeen and nine-sixteenths inches, of B it is eight and three-fourth inches by thirteen and one-half inches, and of C it is nine and seven-sixteenths inches by seventeen and five-sixteenths inches. A and C agree in number, order, and arrangement of the paragraphs, but the style of type used is different; consequently the matter does not correspond line for line. B is smaller in size, but uses a type about the same size as C, hence it became necessary to omit a portion of the text. From the copies in hand it is not possible to ascertain which, if any, is an original issue. A may be an original; the others are copies and, of course, more recent.

E. W. WINKLER.

NEWS ITEMS

Mr. W. Jack Bryan, through Mrs. Looscan, has presented to the Association a number of rare pamphlets. The most important are: "A campaign from Santa Fé to the Mississippi; being A History of the Old Sibley Brigade," by Theo. Noel, Fourth Texas Cavalry (Shreveport, 1865); "Proceedings of the Democratic State Convention of Texas" held in Galveston, April 2, 1860 (Galveston, 1860); "Statement of the Proceedings of the Convention of the National Democratic Party Held in Charleston, in April, 1860, that Led to the Withdrawal of Certain Delegates, and Proceedings of the Delegates that Withdrew" (Charleston, 1860); "Report of the Committee on Federal Relations Relative to the Admission of Kansas into the Federal Union," printed by order of the Texas Legislature (Austin, 1858).

Spanish and French Rivalry in the Gulf Region of the United States, 1678-1702: the Beginnings of Texas and Pensacola is the title of a volume by Dr. William Edward Dunn, and published as a Bulletin by the University of Texas. It will be reviewed by Professor Bolton in the October number of the QUARTERLY.